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Amendment of the claims under Article 19(1) (Rule 46)

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Dear Sir/Madam

The Applicant, who received the International Search Report relating to the above identified International Application transmitted on 27.01.2006 hereby files amendment under Article 19(1) as in the attached sheets.

We hereby would like to amend the claims 1, 2. The claims 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 are retained unchanged.

The Applicant also files as attached herewith a brief statement explaining the amendment and indicating any impact the amendment might have on the description or the drawings.

Very truly yours,

Signature

Name

Attachment:

(1) Amendment under Article 19(1)

(2) Brief Statement

Takee Heguch

1 sheet

請求の範囲

[1] (補正後)被穿孔シートが挿入されるスリットと該スリットに交差する方向に穿孔刃を 案内する案内孔とが形成されたパンチ基台と、案内孔内に案内される穿孔刃と、該 穿孔刃を操作するための操作部と、前記パンチ基台と前記穿孔刃とを収容すると共 に前記操作部が配設される開口部が形成されたハウジングとからなるパンチと、

基台の両側より起立する一対のアームと、該アームに枢支された押圧操作部材とを備えたパンチ補助具と、

を含んで構成されるパンチ装置であって、

前記押圧操作部が枢支されている側に、前記パンチを前記スリットが形成されている側を前記押圧操作部が枢支されている側に向けた状態で挿脱可能な挿脱開口部が形成され、

前記挿脱開口部から挿入された前記パンチの前記操作部を押圧する押圧部を、前記パンチ補助具の前記押圧操作部材の下面に設けたことを特徴とするパンチ装置。

- [2] (補正後)前記パンチ基台と前記穿孔刃とを、該穿孔刃の操作部が前記ハウジングの開口部に配設された状態で、前記操作部がハウジングの上面と略面一になるようにハウジング内に収容して構成されたことを特徴とする請求の範囲第1項に記載のパンチ装置。
- [3] 前記パンチは、前記ハウジングの開口部の周囲に、前記穿孔刃の操作部を案内する案内壁を垂設してなることを特徴とした請求の範囲第1項又は第2項に記載のパンチ装置。
- [4] 前記パンチ補助具の前記基台に、前記押圧操作部材の押圧部の下方に配置されたパンチを保持する保持部を設けたことを特徴とする請求の範囲第1項~第3項の何れかに記載のパンチ装置。
- [5] 被穿孔シートが載置される載置台と、該載置台に載置された被穿孔シートを保持するシート保持手段と、を備えた位置決め用具を更に含んで構成され、

前記位置決め用具に設けられた係止部に、前記パンチ又はパンチ補助具に設けられた被係止部を係合させて、被穿孔シートにおける穿孔位置を設定することを特徴とする請求の範囲第1項~第4項の何れかに記載のパンチ装置。

- [6] 前記位置決め用具の載置台に、被穿孔シートの端縁を当接できる定規部を有すると共に、前記載置台の表面と略面一になる位置から裏面側に向けて回動可能に構成された定規部材を取り付け、該定規部材を前記載置台の裏面側に回動させた際に露呈される前記載置台の端縁部に、前記係止部を設けたことを特徴とする請求の範囲第5項に記載のパンチ装置。
- [7] 前記係止部を、前記載置台の端縁に沿って等間隔に複数設けたことを特徴とする 請求の範囲第5項又は第6項に記載のパンチ装置。
- [8] 前記係止部と係合する前記被係止部を、その係止位置を選択的に変更できるように構成したことを特徴とする請求の範囲第7項に記載のパンチ装置。

条約第19条(1)に基づく説明書

今回、条約第19条(1)に基づいて、特許請求の範囲の請求項1及び請求項2を補正しました。

請求項1における補正は、「・・・前記押圧部材が枢支されている側に、パンチを挿脱するための挿脱開口部が形成され、該挿脱開口部から・・・」なる記載を「・・・前記押圧部材が枢支されている側に、前記パンチを<u>前記スリットが形成されている側を前記押圧操作部が枢支されている側に向けた状態で挿脱可能な</u>挿脱開口部が形成され、<u>前記</u>挿脱開口部から・・・」に補正したものです。

また、請求項2における補正は、「・・・操作部の操作部がハウジングの上面と略面一になるように・・・」なる記載を「・・・<u>前記</u>操作部がハウジングの上面と略面一になるように・・・」に補正したものです。

請求項1における前半の補正は、パンチ補助具の挿脱開口部にパンチを挿脱させるときのパンチの向きを特定したものであります。挿脱開口部にパンチを挿脱させるときのパンチの向きとしては、図1、図2、図5、図10、図11、図13においてそれぞれ記載しています。このように、今回の補正により限定したパンチの向きは、本願の図面において担保されている構成に限定したものであって、新規事項に該当するものではありません。また、この補正により、特許請求の範囲における要旨を変更したり、拡張したりするものではありません。

また、請求項1における後半の補正は、「該挿脱開口部」を「前記挿脱開口部」にする補正であって、「該」を「前記」に変える補正です。即ち、実質的な中身については、何ら変更されるものではありません。

更に、請求項2における補正は、「操作部の操作部」と言う記載を、「前記操作部」とした補正であって、誤記の訂正に相当する補正であります。しかも、この補正により特許請求の範囲における要旨を変更したり、拡張したりするものではありません。

1. (Amended) A punch device comprising:

a punch including a punch station formed with a slit into which a sheet to be punched is to be inserted and a guide hole for guiding a punching blade in a direction intersecting with the slit, the punching blade to be guided by the guide hole, an operating section for operating the punching blade, and a housing which accommodates the punch station and the punching blade and which is formed with an opening in which the operating section is disposed; and a punch auxiliary tool having a pair of arms rising from both sides of the station and a pressing operating member which is pivotally supported by the arms, characterized in that

an inserting/detaching opening, which is capable of inserting and detaching the punch in such a state that a side where the slit is formed is directed to a side where the pressing operating section is pivotally supported, is formed on the side where the pressing operating section is pivotally supported, a lower surface of the pressing operating member of the punch auxiliary tool is provided with a pressing section which presses the operating section inserted from the inserting/detaching opening.

2. (Amended) The punch device according to claim 1, characterized in that in a state where the operating section

of the punching blade is disposed in the opening of the housing, the punch station and the punching blade are accommodated in the housing such that the operating section is substantially flush with an upper surface of the housing.

- 3. The punch device according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the punch has a guide wall suspending from a periphery of the opening of the housing for guiding the operating section of the punching blade.
- 4. The punch device according to any one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the station of the punch auxiliary tool is provided with a holding portion for holding the punch disposed below the pressing section of the pressing operating member.
- 5. The punch device according to any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized by further comprising a positioning tool including a mounting stage on which the sheet to be punched is placed, and sheet holding means for holding the sheet to be punched placed on the mounting stage, wherein
- a to-be-retained portion provided on the punch or punch auxiliary tool is engaged with a retaining portion provided on the positioning tool, and a punching position in the sheet to be punched is set.
- 6. The punch device according to claim 5, characterized in that a ruler member is mounted on a mounting stage of the positioning tool, the ruler member includes a ruler portion against which an end edge of the sheet to be punched can abut,

the ruler member can turn toward its back surface from a position where a surface of the mounting stage is substantially flush, the end edge of the mounting stage which is exposed when the ruler member is turned toward the back surface of the mounting stage is provided with the retaining portion.

- 7. The punch device according to claim 5 or 6, characterized in that the retaining portion comprises a plurality of the retaining portions arranged along the end edge of the mounting stage at equal distances from one another.
- 8. The punch device according to claim 7, characterized in that a retaining position of the to-be-retained portion which is engaged with the retaining portion can be changed selectively.

Description based on Article 19(1) of PCT

This time, we have amended claim 1 and claim 2 of scope of claims, based on article 19(1) of PCT.

In the amendment of claim 1, the text "an inserting/detaching opening for inserting and detaching the punch is formed on a side where the pressing operating section is pivotally supported, · · · from the inserting/detaching opening" has been amended to "an inserting/detaching opening, which is capable of inserting and detaching the punch in such a state that a side where the slit is formed is directed to a side where the pressing operating section is pivotally supported, is formed on the side where the pressing operating section is pivotally supported, · · · from the inserting/detaching opening".

In the amendment of claim 2, the text "···such that the operating section of the operating section is substantially flush with an upper surface of the housing" has been amended to "···such that the operating section is substantially flush with an upper surface of the housing".

In the first half amendment of claim 1, the direction of the punch when the inserting/detaching opening of the punch auxiliary tool inserts and detaches the punch is specified. The direction of the punch when the inserting/detaching opening inserts and detaches the punch is shown in Fig. 1, Fig. 2, Fig. 5, Fig. 10, Fig. 11, and Fig. 13, respectively. Like this, the direction of the punch limited by this amendment is just limited to the feature included in the drawings of the application, so that it does not correspond to new matter. In addition, with the amendment, the gist of scope of claims is not changed or extended.

(This paragraph can not be translated, since the last half amendment of claim 1 is not reflected in English, since it is the problem of Japanese expression. Substantial contents of claim 1 are not changed at all.)

Further, in the amendment of claim 2, the phrase "the operating section of the operating section" has been amended to "the operating section", and this amendment corresponds to the correction of the clerical error. In addition, with the amendment, the gist of scope of claims is not changed or extended.